

# MERCATOR:

O R,

## Commerce Retrieved,

B E I N G

CONSIDERATIONS on the State of the *British Trade, &c.*

From Thursday, October 15. to Saturday, October 17. 1713.

**H**AVING by just Discount from the Cheats of those, who would fain represent the French Trade as Formidable and Frightful as they can, brought down the ordinary Import of French Goods to about Eight hundred thousand Pounds a Year;

The *MERCATOR* shall next give, as short as may be, a View of the Exports of the Year 1685-6, with such Valuations, as he thinks the Articles will bear, giving up many Things to avoid giving Occasions for Cavils; and then proceed to such more useful Observations of the Trade as lie before him. What has been offer'd against his Observations about the extravagant Sums said to be Imported from France, has been so empty, so frivolous, and so little to the Purpose, that it is worth no Notice; as, that the late *Guardian* did not say Seven hundred thousand Pound in Linen, but Six hundred thousand; which is true, because he said Six or Seven; that he did not say Four thousand Ton of Brandy, but Three thousand, whereas he said, Brandy to the Value of Seventy thousand Pound, and the *MERCATOR* said, the Quantity uncertain, but the Value Seventy thousand Pound, which it is well known would have purchased in France at that time Eight thousand Ton: So that the more they stir these Things, the worse

These things are, as is said, so Foolish, they deserve no Notice. We proceed to an Account of Goods Exported, as above.

In this Account, it is to be noted, we take the Quantity for granted, as publish'd in their Scheme, whether it be true or not; being willing to confute their Allegations upon the foot of their own suggested Quantities.

An

A

An ACCOUNT of Goods Exported from England to France, from Michaelmas 1685, to Michaelmas 1686.

Quantity	Species	Price	Total Value. L.	
422 Ps	Long Cloths	10 l. per ps	4220	
164 ps	Short Cloths	8	1312	
4190	Spanish Cloths	18	75420	Spanish fine Cloths are usually worth more
4921 ps	Northern Kersies	1 15	8625 15 s.	
211 ps	Cloth Rashes	6	1266	
7672 ps	Serges and Perpets	2 10	19180	This was the Price allowed by the old Scheme
7972 ps	Ditto being 7972 l. wt. a 10 l. to a ps	2 10	19930	
101946 yds	Ditto Serges	3 s. per yd	15291	
40800 l.wt.	Stuffs	3 s. per l.	6120	3 This is left to Judgment of the Exet. & Taunton Serge-mak.
1123 ps	Stuffs and Says	2 l. per ps	2246	
3450 l.wt.	Woollen Cloth	5 s. per l.	862 10	
152 ps	Yorksh. Cloth call'd Doz.	6 l. per ps	912	These are often worth 7 to 8 Pound
1289 ps	Ditto single	3	3867	
2082 ps	Single Bays	2 10	5205	
1601 ps	Double	4 l.	6404	2 The sorts of these are taken in just proportion, being left otherwise in their Scheme
98 ps	Minikin	6	588	
43 ps	Pennitones	3	129	
21847 yds	Frize	3s 6d per yd	4923 4 6	
214240 gds	Goads Cotton	10 l. per C.	21424	
29307 yds	Flannel	1 s. per yd	1465 7	
2737 ps	Dorset Dozens	1 1.8 s per ps	3845 16	
439 l.wt.	Camblet	10 s. per l.	219 10	Their own Rate but worth at least 14 s
141	Garments	1 l. 10 s. each	211 10	
	Wadmole , Fustians , Waistcoats, Hose, Caps, Hats, Buttons, and Coverlids together		9700	
7232 l.	Wrought Silk and Stuffs mixt with Silk	2 l. per l.	14464	The Stuffs if lower, they ought to have separated them
2481 C. $\frac{1}{4}$	Tann'd Leather	3 l. per C.	8376	2 These are taken from the gross Quantity of Tann'd Leather Exported, whereof three Fourths are generally Calf-Skins
7132 C. $\frac{1}{2}$	Tann'd Calf-skins	5 l. 12 s.	39940 19 5	
619 l.	Wrought Leather	3 s. per l.	92 17	
113 doz.	Plain Leather Gloves	12 s. per doz.	67 16	
1075 doz.	Old-shoes	2 s. per doz.	107 10	
3	Saddles	1 l.	3	
1	Coach Harness	5 l.	5	
6 pair	Buck-Leather Gloves	2 s.	12	
13767 Ells	Linnen	1 8 d	1147 5	
592 Gro.	Tobacco-pipes	1	29 12	
3 pair	Virginals	5 l.	15	
12 doz.	Bellows	1 4 s. per doz.	14 8	
490 $\frac{1}{2}$	Books and Maps printed	5 l. 15 s.	247 10	
10:2:7	Haberdashery Ware	30 per C.	316	
4958 $\frac{1}{2}$ fir.	Butter	1 per Fir.	4958 10	These are reducing Barrels of Butter into 2 Firkins each
1063 $\frac{1}{2}$ C.	Glue	1 10 s. per C.	1535 5	
2002 C.	Gunpowder	2 15 s.	5505 10	
18 $\frac{1}{2}$ C.	Starch	1 l.	18 10	
2947 C.	Allom	1 4 s.	3636	
3 $\frac{1}{2}$ C.	Beef	1 10 s. p. Bar.	4 13	
36:2 T.	Beer	4 l. per Ton	146	
26:1 C.	Cheese	1 7 s.	39 7 6	
800	Hoops		2	
3	Pictures		18	
10369 qr.	Wheat	11 15 s. prqr.	18195 15	
1431	Rye	18 s.	1287 18	
312	Oats	10	156	
48	Oatmeal	3 per Bushel	7 4	
12898 Bar.	Herrings	17 per Bar.	10963 6	It is not likely the Corn should be at a cheaper Rate, especially when there was a Demand for it in France

Total 325869 l.



Quantity	Species	Price	Total Value	
49 Bar.	Salmon	4 l. per Bar.	196	
177 C.	Bees-wax	6 15 s. per C.	1194	
1134 Chal	Coals	1 l. per Chal.	1134	One Chaldron Newcastle Measure, makes 2 Chald.
1900 l.	Coney-wooll	8 s.	760	
3009 C.	Tin	3 l. 15 s.	9779	
86 C. 1 qr. 5 l.	Pewter	1 s. 4d. per l.	644	
2923 Fod.	Lead	12 l. per Fod.	35126 9 2	
1258 C.	Lead-shot	15 s. per C.	943 10	
98 C.	Wrought Brass & Copper	10 l.	980	
44 C. 3 qr. 1 qr.	Iron Ordnance	12 s.	26 17	
4 C. 1 qr.	Iron wrt. & Clock-work	6 l. per C.	25 10	Tho' this Clockwork were to be all Iron, which it is absurd to suppose, yet 40 s. per C. as they Rate it is ridiculous, and it may be much more likely to be Brass than Iron
336900	Lanthorn-leaves	10 s. per M.	1681	
750	Rams Horns		5	
100	Stags Horns		5	
47400	Oxe Bones	7 s.	16 11 8	
214 1/2 qr.	Linseeds	2 l. per qr.	419	
2 C.	Sugar refined	3 per C.	6	
30 lb.	Sealing-wax	5 s. per l.	7 10	
76	Horses	15 l.	1140	No Horses sent to France but fine Saddle-Horses, which are often at 40 & 50 l. a Horse
	Unrated Goods		7787 7	
250 qr.	Malt	17 s. per qr.	162 10	
368	Barley	16	294 8	
102	Pease	1 l. 6 s.	132 6	
40 C.	Copperas	5 s.	10	
15280	Bread	9 s. 4 d.	63 15 4	If Biscuit was wanted abroad, it could not be cheaper than 1 d. per lb.
4 doz.	Candles	4 s. 6 d.	18	
102 C.	Clapholt	15	7 17 6	
90000	Deals	4 l. per C.	3600	
22 C.	Flax undrest	2 l. 5 s.	49 10	
2 qr.				
100 Caf.	Window-glaſſes	1 l. 10 s.	150	
15750	Glaſſes-bottles	2 d per piece	101 5	They were not sold cheaper at that time.
195 C.	Figs	16 s. per C.	156	
3 Cal.	Grindſtones delivered	1 l. 10 s.	1 10	
5160	Staves Hogsheads	17 l. per M.	87 12 8	
	Ditto Pipe			
308 Ton	Pilchards	12 per Ton	3696	
287206	Hillingſtones delivered	15 s. per M. with the Freight	215 8 6	They are sold with the Freight
25 C.	Old Iron	10 s. per C.	12 10	
483 C.	Nails	1 l. 15 s.	846 2 6	
2 qr.				
6 C.	Steel	1 10 s.	9	
15 : 1 C.	Hops	2 10 s. per C.	38 2 6	
40 : 2 T.	Linseed Oil	28 l. per Ton	1122 2 8	
683	Raw Hides	7 s. per ps	239 1	
5	Beaver	3	15	
4	Wooll Cards	10 per doz.	2	
	Foreign Goods.			
23694 l.	Pot-ashes	1 l. 8 s.	317 6 6	
19 C.	Almonds	5	96 5	
1 qr.				
42 l.	Amber-beads	1 8 s.	58 16	
183 T. 16 C.	Braziletto Wood	12 lb. per Ton	2206 12	
360 C.	Batrilla	1 l. 5 s.	450	
1135 C.	Bees-wax	4 10 s.	5107 10	
541 C.	Brimſtone	1 5 s.	676 5	
1 ps	Checks		2	
290 Ells	Canvas	1 s. 2 d pr Ell	16 18 4	
		Total	81701 13 4	



Species.	Price.	Total Value.	
Gauls	3 l. 10 s.	8589 l.	Their own Rate Inwards
Goats-Hair	2 s. 4 d.	4879 16 4	
Rice	1 l. 16 s. per C.	57 12	
Sponges	Together.	6647 18	Their own Rates, tho' too low by much
Silk Raw			
East-India Goods.			
Atlasses	4 l. per ps	76	Often Sold at 20 l. per ps.
Boxes Japan'd	5 s. per box	3	
Canes	6 l. per C.	600	
Chints	2 l. per ps	50	Many of these were then worth from 7 to 9 l.
Chucklees	1 s. 6 d.	1204 16	The Tubs of China Ware often worth great Smms, put here at 30 l. together
China-Ware		30	
Tubs.			
Cabinets	25 l. each.	50	
Cups Japan'd	2s.	1 10	
Cravats with Gold and Silver	15 s.	5 5	
Cuttanees with Gold	3 l.	129	
Calicoes and Muslins	1 l. 10 s. per ps	201954	This Article is referr'd to the Judgment of Impartial Traders
Dressing-Boxes	1 l.	2	
Neckcloths	1 l.	1537	
Ditto Single	6 d.	201 7 6	
Nillae	1 l.	4510	
Needle Cases	10 d.	21852	
Pepper	4 d.	75	
Pepper Dust			
Palampores			
Romalls	Together.	4067 7	Their own Rates
Ditto Cotton			
Ditto with Silk			
Red Earth			
Wrought India	2 l.	4827	As much worth as other Wt Silks at that time.
Silk			
Salampores	Together.	54 10	Their own Rates
Trunks Laquered			
Tea-Tables Japan'd		41	
Tea	Together.	577 10	Ditto
Guinea Stuffs			
Gingham's			
Jamwarris			
Woodred			
Furs and Skins of sundry sorts, put them together		3223 1 5	Their own Rates
Drugs also in the same manner		4600 19	Their own Rates
<b>Total 64659 18 7 1/2</b>			

Total of the first Side 325869 l.

second Side 81701 13 s 4 d.

third Side 64659 18 7 1/2

fourth Side 269846 12 3

**Total of all 742077 4 2 1/2**

Thus our Exports for this Year 1685-6, came to Seven Hundred Forty-two Thousand Seventy-seven Pounds, Four Shillings, and Two Pence Half-penny.

We shall in the next Enquire whether that Years Trade were to the Advantage of Britain or no.

#### ERRATA in the last MERCATOR.

Col. 4. l. 48. for 428 l. read 428000 l. L. 58. dele and that. L. 60. dele so.

# To the MERCATOR.

SIR,

YOU may not wonder at the Treatment you meet with from the Writers, who Oppose you, when were you to Converse with them in their private Meetings, nay and publick also; the Names of Rogue and Villain, Fool and Rascal, are the best Language they use to Ministers of State, to the best Men of the Nation; nay, I speak it with Horror, they are not ashame'd to treat the Queen her self in the same manner. All the Answers you will have to all you Write, are to be thus managed: It is agreed among them, that it shall be so; and they have hired a Writer on purpose, who is qualified with Spleen against the Government, having twice fled from Parliamentary Justice, and who is especially noted for his foul Tongue, so that he might make up the grossest Ignorance with ill Language. Your Readers therefore, who are generally the most Impartial and Unprejudiced, and by Consequence the best of Men, are extreamly pleased with your Moderation, in that you proceed quietly, with sound Arguments, to expose their Frauds and Cheats; and are not provok'd, by their Taunting and Unmannerly Words, to take any Notice of them.

Is any thing more absurd and ridiculous, than their Boasts of making good what they pretended about your Falsifying the *Portugal* Treaty, and their Bullying us with the King of *Portugal's* breaking the Peace with us for it? Railing and Abusing the *MERCATOR*, and then call it proving what they had said? Then again of Prohibiting all our Manufactures in *Portugal*; Have they told you yet what Manufactures the *Portuguese* did Prohibit besides our Woollen Cloths? Believe me, Good Sir, they are not worth your Notice; they impose horrid Cheats on the Nation, and prove them by calling Rogue and Rascal. Are such Men to be taken Notice of? The more they are in a Rage, the more Force it gives to what you Write.

Was ever a more ridiculous Answer given to any thing in the World, than to what your *Mercator* had charged very justly upon them! for rating Wrought Brass at 8 l. per Cent. and Clock-work at 40 s.

1. That this may be Iron Clock-work! What ridiculous Mocking the World is this! May it not be Brass too?

2. That it is rated at the Custom-house at 40 s.

Could he have prov'd it to be Iron Clock-work, he ought to have called it so in his Account; but we all know fine Clocks are sent to France, and were enter'd at the Custom-house, paying as Wrought Iron does, after the Rate of 40 s. per C. Weight, but are nevertheless worth 20 l. a C. and often more. But such is the Rage of these Men, they will not see, and would have others blind: You will find most of their Valuations are taken from nothing but the Book of Rates, which every Merchant knows is no Rule to judge the real Value by. So you will find they have Rated Haberdashery Wares at 10 l. per Hundred Weight, because they pay upon such a Value at the Custom-house; whereas it is well known, that Haberdashers Goods, take them one with another, are more likely to be worth from 50 l. to 100 l. per Hundred Weight than 10 l.

Having therefore such an Enemy to deal with, your way is clear. Never fight with Chimney-sweepers and Dunhill-rakers, but leaving them to throw Dirt, none of which will stick upon you, go on to state our Trade as it really is and would be, that if this Age should be so mad as to throw away the Advantage of their Commerce, the next Age may see who did it. In the mean time, it is plain to all good Men, that the French Trade is to our Advantage; and the Opposition it meets with from these Men is a horrid Plot of a Party, a downright Conspiracy to carry on their Party-Wickedness, and our Trade is to be Sacrificed to bring it to pass, as Time will more plainly discover.

Your Friend and Servant,



English Merchant.

LONDON: Printed for BENJ. TOOKE, at the Temple-Gate; and  
JOHN BARBER, on Lambeth-Hill. (Price 3 Half-pence.)